## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /033 W

-----030705 115899 /23-12

R 021718Z MAR 77 FM AMEMBASSY ROME TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3078 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAIR, IT

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: GOI VIEWS ON NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTE FARES

REF: STATE 25476

- 1. EMBASSY RECEIVED ON FEBRUARY 28 MFA NOTE VERBALE ON NORTH ATLANTIC FARES. UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION WITH UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED PROVIDED IN PARA 2.
- 2. BEGIN TEXT. MFA INFORMS THAT DURING THIRTY-THIRD MEETING OF DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION OF ECAC MEMBERS HELD IN PARIS, JANUARY 11-12, 1977, GRAVE CONCERN EXPRESSED ABOUT NORTH ATLANTIC AIR FARE SITUATION WHICH, DUE TO UNILATERAL ACTIONS OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD, DISTURBS CIVIL AVIATION IN ITALY AND EUROPE IN GENERAL.

ITALY FULLY TAKES INTO ACCOUNT JURIDICAL POITION ADOPTED DOMESTICALLY BY USG AND, NOT WANTING TO INTERFERE IN U.S. INTERNAL PROCESS, CALLS ATTENTION OF U.S. AUTHORITIES TO DANGERS THAT CAN BEFALL INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVAITION FROM EXERCISE OF ARBITRARY POWER WHICH DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OTHER NATIONS' INTERESTS.

ECONOMIC SITUATION OF COMPANIES OPERATING OVER NORTH ATLANTIC GENERATES SOME PERPLEXITY: WHILE ON ONE HAND, GOI RECOGNIZEDS DIFFICULTY OF ARRIVING AT AGREEMENT ON FARE STRUCTURE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, INCLUDING ADIQUATE AGENT COMMISSION FEES, ON OTHER HAND, MAINTAINS THAT ACHIEVEMENT OF SUCH

AGREEMENT (THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT NECESSITY OF MAINTAINING FARE STRUCTURE BASED ON VARIOUS ECONOMIC REALITIES) SHOULD BE CONSIDERED URGENT PRIORITY.

THEREFORE, GOI RECEIVED WITH SATISFACTION NEW IATA AGREEMENT ON FARES APPLICABLE APRIL 1, 1977, OVER NORTH ATLANTIC AS THAT AGREEMENT IS HELD TO BE BEST COMPROMISE OBTAINABLE UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

ITALY SHARES WITH OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES CONCERN CITED ABOVE AND MAINTAINS ITS READINESS TO COLLABORATE IN ANY INITIATIVE THAT MIGHTLEAD TO SATISFACTORY AND FINAL SOLUTION TO COMMON PROBLEM, END TEXT.

3. COMMENT. FOREGOING IS PRESUMABLY A BELATED REACTION TO BILLER LETTER TO RABEN (CONTAINED IN REFTEL), COPY OF WHICH EMBASSY PASSED TO DGCA COLLINI, AS WELL AS SUPPORT FOR ECAC POSITION. BEAUDRY

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, AIR FARES, NEGOTIATIONS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME03375
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** 

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D770072-1154

Format: TEL

From: ROME

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703101/aaaadkyr.tel

Line Count: 80 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4c3d88ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: 77 STĂTE 25476

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 10-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2939043 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CIVAIR: GOI VIEWS ON NORTH ATLANTIC ROUTE FARES

TAGS: EAIR, IT, US, ECAC

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4c3d88ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009